

had to face many challenges that threaten the free and democratic nation. Under the administration of President Harry Truman and minutes after its independence, the United States found in Israel a friend and an ally.

From the beginning of its history as an independent state, Israel has had to face and overcome constant challenges to its freedom of speech, religion, press, and to its democracy. Israelis have had to fight for the strengthening of their independence and their advancement as a global state. Despite constantly being threatened by turmoil from bordering regions, Israel has been able to flourish and become a global leader in scientific research and medical advancements, and a model to the world for its economic stability.

Today, we celebrate the 67th anniversary of the declaration of independence of the State of Israel. We celebrate that Israel has been able to stand strong and thrive against all adversity. For this, I would like to commend the State of Israel for its tremendous accomplishments while fighting for the peace and freedom of an independent state.

RECOGNIZING KAREN RATZOW

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2015

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the tremendous work of Karen Ratzow who has been on detail with the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee for the past year. Karen has been detailed to the Subcommittee from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's Budget Office. Karen has not only been invaluable to the Subcommittee's work this past year, but she has been diligent, had a tremendous work ethic, and very knowledgeable of the budget process. Karen is always eager to volunteer and lend a hand to whatever task may be needed. She quickly became an integral part of the team and she will certainly be missed.

I want to thank Karen for her outstanding work and for her dedication to agriculture in the United States of America. She is a great example of the kind of public servant we should all strive to be.

As her detail comes to a close, we want to wish her well. We look forward to working with her when she returns to her previous role at USDA.

IN RECOGNITION OF QUINCY BROWN

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Quincy Brown, an outstanding actor, producer, photographer, director, singer, model, philanthropist, and co-founder of FourXample Productions. Quincy will be honored at the premiere of his new movie, *Brotherly Love*, on Friday, April 24, 2015 at Carmike Hollywood Connections Ritz 13 in Columbus, Georgia.

The son of actress and model, Kim Porter, and New Jack Swing singer, Al B. Sure, and the stepson of singer and producer, Sean "Diddy" Combs, Quincy grew up in Columbus, Georgia and was educated in the Muscogee County School District. He is the grandson of the late Sarah Porter and great-grandson of Ms. Lila Star, the owner of the renowned Royal Café in Columbus.

Notwithstanding his lineage, Quincy has made a name for himself in the entertainment industry. At just 23 years of age, Quincy is a mini-mogul himself. In 2012, Quincy released his debut single, "Stay Awhile," featuring Kendre. In 2013, he followed up with another single, "The First Thing," which he co-wrote. Now Quincy is both behind and in front of the camera with his FourXample Production crew, recently wrapping up his directorial debut of singer Elle Winter's music video, "No Words," which features Quincy's brother, Christian Combs.

Moreover, Quincy just premiered his new single, "Friends First," featuring rapper French Montana. The single has already hit number 1 on the Billboard "Trending Social" chart. Quincy's new album, 1948, is slated for release this year.

Even at his young age, Quincy recognizes the importance of giving back to the community. He coordinated the first annual Celebrity Kickball Charity Event and the First Annual Celebrity Flag Football Charity Event with singer Chris Brown, which brought together a host of entertainers and celebrities. Quincy has given much to his charity of choice, Best Buddies, an organization dedicated to creating employment opportunities and leadership development for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

At 23, Quincy has already lived more than many people two or three times his age. He pursues each and every idea and passion, striving to connect with people from all walks of life and seeking to live life to the very fullest. Yet, as he achieves stardom, he never forgets the people, places, or comforts of his home—Columbus, Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, I have long said that in our area of Middle and Southwest Georgia, we have some of the best, the brightest, the most creative, and the most talented young people anywhere in the world. And Quincy Brown proves that beyond the shadow of a doubt! His industrious perseverance and steadfast commitment to his goals set a magnificent example for the young men and women who look up to him as a role model. We are sure to see even more great things from Quincy Brown in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife Vivian, and the more than 730,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in recognizing Quincy Brown for his remarkable accomplishments as an entertainer and for his generous heart and humble spirit as a philanthropist.

ROHINGYA CRISIS CONTINUES IN BURMA

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2015

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues a

new report about the perilous reality facing the daily lives of the Rohingya Muslim minority in Burma, also known as Myanmar. The report, *The Rohingya Crisis and the Risk of Atrocities in Myanmar: An ASEAN Challenge and Call to Action*, was published by the ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights and describes the continuing persecution of the Rohingya in Burma. Along with my friend and colleague, Congressman JOE PITTS, in our positions as the Co-Chairs of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, we sent a letter to the Chairman of the ASEAN parliamentarians for Human Rights, the Honorable Malaysian Member of Parliament Charles Santiago, expressing how we share their concerns regarding the continuing human rights abuses perpetrated against the Rohingya people of Burma. Last year, the 113th Congress passed H. Res. 418, "urging the Government of Burma to end the persecution of the Rohingya people and to respect internationally recognized human rights for all ethnic and religious minority groups within Burma."

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the letter to Chairman Santiago, the press release from the ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights describing their report, and the Executive Summary and Call to Action of the report.

I urge all my colleagues to review this report and continue to advocate on behalf of the human rights and basic human dignity of the Rohingya people of Burma.

TOM LANTOS,
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION,
April 21, 2015.

Hon. CHARLES SANTIAGO,
Member of Parliament, Malaysia, Chairman,
ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human
Rights, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SANTIAGO: As Co-Chairs of Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission of the United States Congress, we are writing to congratulate you on the release of your report, "The Rohingya Crisis and the Risk of Atrocities in Myanmar". We share your concerns with the situation in Burma (Myanmar) and appreciate the initiative of ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights to shed light on these disturbing developments and call for action to address them. We are eager to review the report and bring it to the attention of the U.S. Congress and the American people by sharing it with our colleagues and formally entering it into the Congressional Record.

The Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission shares your vision of standing up for abuses of human rights wherever they may occur. We have held hearings and briefings in the U.S. Congress and have worked closely with civil society organizations to bring further attention to the particularly egregious abuses against minorities by the Government of Burma. Last year, we introduced and passed a Congressional Resolution, H. Res. 418 "Urging the Government of Burma to end the persecution of the Rohingya people and respect internationally recognized human rights for all ethnic and religious minority groups within Burma."

We appreciate your leadership on this important issue and your commitment to advancing human rights within ASEAN. We would be pleased to work with you and other elected officials who are committed to the advancement of human rights to address the escalating human rights crisis facing the Rohingya in Burma.

Sincerely,

JAMES P. MCGOVERN,
Member of Congress,
Co-Chair TLHRC.